

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Latvia)  
SUBJECT City of Liepaja

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SOURCE

1. The following is a description of the larger buildings and installations of Liepaja which were not damaged during World War II. The descriptions correspond with the enclosed sketch of the City of Liepaja. The sketch was drawn to scale.
2. Northern part. The naval port is located in this section and is surrounded by the sea, canals, and lakes. The ruins of a former fortress are also located in this section of the city. There are cobblestone streets and a large number of buildings for housing military personnel. It is primarily a military town with officers' apartment, clubs, barracks, stables for horses, and large warehouses. At one time the Soviets stationed approximately 50,000 soldiers there and the capacity is up to 80,000 men. There are two large industrial enterprises, i.e., a shipyard with dry docks and floating docks, and a sugar refinery.
3. Central part, Yauliepaja (New Liepaja). This portion of the city is located between the harbor canal and the commercial port. Liepaja is a center of incoming traffic. This part of the city has large port warehouses and refrigerator plants, large industrial enterprises; the central railroad station, workers' residential areas, a free port and the greater part of the commercial port, and warehouses. There is a small airport in the northern section, near the harbor canal, which has been used for local training purposes. It is not in use at the present time (1954).
4. Southern part, Vetsliepaja (Old Liepaja). This section is mostly the residential area. The shopping center is located on the main street. The workers' living areas are located along the lake in the eastern section. The middle-class residential areas and the most luxurious homes are located in the west, along the sea shore. The lighthouse, the customhouse, the fisherman's port, and warehouses for dutiable goods are located in the commercial portion. A large city hospital is located in the southwest corner of the section.

ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch of the City of Liepaja with Legend

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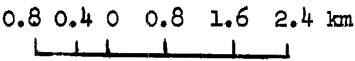
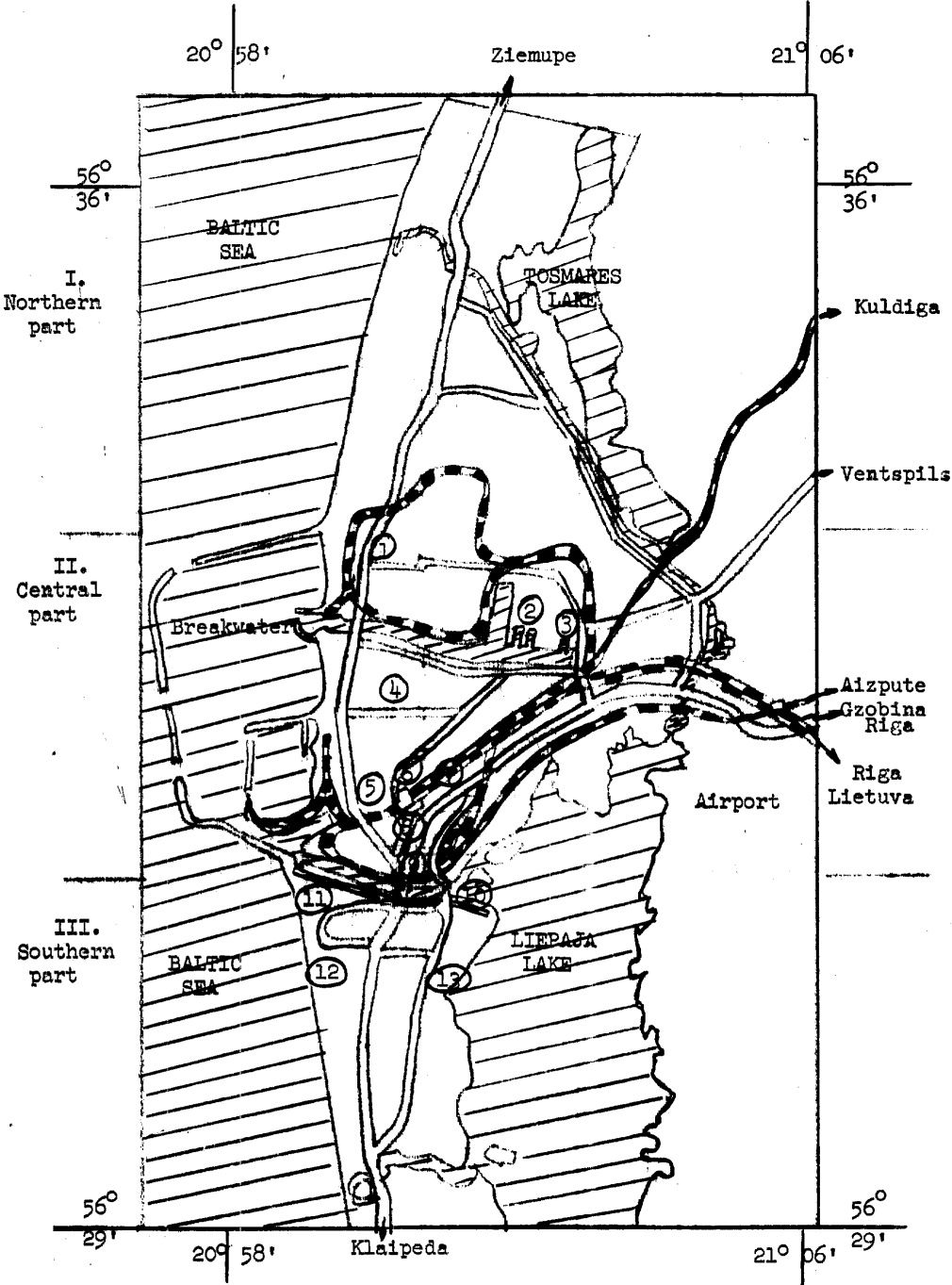
ENCLOSURE A



SKETCH OF LIEPAJA

drawn [redacted]  
scale with legend

50X1



SCALE  
m. 1:80,000

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ENCLOSURE (A)

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## Legend:

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1. The sanatorium, which is located near the naval port, was formerly a navy club and is a luxurious building. It was later rebuilt into a TB sanatorium and accommodates up to 500 patients.
2. The shipyard and ship repair shops, located near the naval port canal, has two dry docks and two smaller floating docks. The dry docks can service ships with a 30-foot draft. These docks are considered to be the largest ones in the Baltic States and Finland, as the large Finnish ships once used the docks for repairs. The docks are equipped with all auxiliary installations. They employ up to 800 workers and part of the time is used for producing agricultural machinery. The maximum capacity is 2,500 workers.
3. The sugar refinery is in operation during the sugar beet-processing season, from October to February. It is equipped with modern machinery and installations. The output is 1,500 to 2,000 tons of sugar per season.
4. The training airport is not in use at the present time  50X1
5. The petroleum storage tanks of the former Nobel Company. They are equipped with pumping devices and pipes. Petroleum is loaded and unloaded from ships directly in the port.
6. The main railroad station now services 1,524 mm (Soviet) railroad lines and 750 mm (local) railroad lines. Formerly this station serviced four different gauges of railroads. The station has several warehouses and a locomotive repair shop. It can handle 12 to 20 pairs of trains.
7. The wire factory remelts scrap iron and produces an assortment of various iron products. During Czarist times the main output consisted of various sizes of wire and the factory has retained its name since that time. The factory has two blast furnaces and the electromagnets have a 5-ton lifting capacity. The factory employs approximately 1,300 workers and has a capacity of approximately 3,000 workers. The employment is on an all-year basis.
8. The elementary school is one of the largest buildings constructed in Liepaja in recent years. The modern 4-story brick building accommodates about 600 school children in two shifts and has modern plumbing and heating (water) installations. It is the only large building which was not damaged during World War II.
9. The dairy cooperative processes milk from surrounding farms and produces butter and cheese. It has modern storage and refrigeration facilities.
10. The timber industries are located near the lake. The timber is floated in rafts across the lake. The "Vulkans" Match Factory and the "Korona" Leather Processing Factory are also located in this area.
11. The bathing establishment of the city provides mud baths, steam baths, showers, colon irrigation, carbon dioxide baths, and all kinds of massage and treatment.
12. The city hospital consists of a group of buildings on an area of 10 to 15 hectares. The hospital has approximately 10 different departments, including a large section for mental patients. The normal number of patients is about 600 to 800. The maximum capacity is 1,200 patients.
13. The city slaughterhouse is where cattle is slaughtered for the needs of the city and the surrounding areas. The meat is not exported or canned. It is not a modern establishment.

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